



Naval Station Ingleside

August 29, 2005

Ingleside ships return from 5-month deployment



USS Devastator (MCM 6) and USS Scout (MCM 8) returned from a successful five-month deployment Monday morning, Aug. 29.

During their Eastern Pacific and Southern Command deployment, the ships traveled nearly 11,000 nautical miles and were commended by U.S. Third Fleet and Second Fleet commanders for their participation in a number of exercises, including Exercise Lead Shield, which involved clearing the Los Angeles and Long Beach ports that had been mined by a fictitious terrorist group; and PANAMAX 2005, a multinational exercise during which the two ships conducted mine clearance operations in the

approaches to the Panama Canal. The nearly 180 Sailors also made port visits in Mexico, Panama, and Jamaica, as well as transited the Panama Canal.

The two Avenger Class ships are designed as a mine hunter-killer capable of finding, classifying and destroying moored and bottom mines. The 224-foot, 1,300-ton mine countermeasures ships are equipped with high definition, variable-depth sonar, and a remotely operated robotic submarine used to neutralize mines. It is also capable of conventional mine sweeping measures. The ship has a fiberglass-sheathed, wooden hull and is armed with two .50 caliber machine guns.